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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/843,767	04/30/2001	Vivian G. Hsieh	033048-013	9190

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, NHON D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2174

DATE MAILED: 07/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/843,767

Applicant(s)

HSIEH ET AL.

Examiner

Nhon (Gary) D Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-5, 7-8, 11-22, and 27-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tonelli et al. ("Tonelli", 5,821,937).

As per independent claim 1, Tonelli teaches a graphical user interface for viewing a plurality of devices, said graphical user interface comprising:

a first user interface element actuable to access a first portion of said graphical user interface (col. 13, lines 12-14), which first portion displays information associated with a plurality of devices that correspond to a customer (fig. 3a), wherein said plurality of devices include at least one of: a server, a firewall, a load balancer and a switch (fig. 2 and 246 of fig. 22).

As per claim 2, which is dependent on claim 1, Tonelli teaches said first user interface element is a link which is actuable via a pointing device and a cursor displayed on said graphical user interface (col. 13, lines 12-14).

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As per claim 3, which is dependent on claim 1, Tonelli teaches said first portion of said graphical user interface includes a screen wherein a user can select from a plurality of data centers and a plurality of customers to access said information associated with said plurality of devices that correspond to said customer (col. 6, line 51 – col. 7, line 5 and fig. 3a).

As per claim 4, which is dependent on claim 1, it is inherent in Tonelli's network system that at least one IP address associated with each of said plurality of devices.

As per claim 5, which is dependent on claim 1, Tonelli teaches said first portion includes, as said information associated with said plurality of devices that correspond to a customer, at least one hostname associated with at least some of said plurality of devices (274 of fig. 26).

As per claim 7, which is dependent on claim 1, Tonelli teaches said first portion includes, as said information associated with said plurality of devices that correspond to a customer, an application role associated with each of said plurality of devices (*Device Category* of fig. 22).

As per claim 8, which is dependent on claim 1, Tonelli teaches said first portion includes, as said information associated with said plurality of devices that correspond to a customer, a customer role associated with each of said plurality of devices (250 of fig. 22).

As per claims 11 and 12, which are dependent on claims 1 and 11 respectively, Tonelli teaches said first portion includes, as said information associated with said plurality of devices

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that correspond to a customer, a state field associated with each of said plurality of devices, wherein said state field has a value of one of: ok, offline, unreachable and decommissioned (col. 14, lines 35-40).

As per claim 13, which is dependent on claim 1, Tonelli teaches:

a second user interface element actuable to access a second portion of said graphical user interface, which second portion displays information and configuration user interface elements for each of at least some of said plurality of devices that correspond to said customer (fig. 17).

As per claim 14, which is dependent on claim 13, Tonelli teaches said at least some of said plurality of devices that correspond to said customer are servers associated with said customer (fig. 3a).

As per claim 15, which is dependent on claim 13, Tonelli teaches said second user interface element is a link which is actuable via a pointing device and a cursor displayed on said graphical user interface (col. 9, lines 43-47).

As per claim 16, which is dependent on claim 13, Tonelli teaches said configuration user interface elements include a view element which is actuable to reach a configuration screen associated with one of said at least some of said plurality of devices (fig. 17).

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As per claims 17 and 18, which are both dependent on claim 16, Tonelli teaches said configuration screen includes a use listbox element by which a user can select a use value for a use field displayed in at least one of said first portion and said second portion of said graphical user interface, and wherein said configuration screen includes a use interface element by which a user can select a use value for a use field displayed in at least one of said first portion and said second portion of said graphical user interface (194 and 198 of fig. 17).

As per claim 19, which is dependent on claim 16, Tonelli teaches said configuration screen includes a state interface element by which a user can select a state value for a state field displayed in at least one of said first portion and said second portion of said graphical user interface (194 of fig. 17).

As per claim 20, which is dependent on claim 16, Tonelli teaches said configuration screen includes a stage interface element by which a user can select a stage value for said one of said at least some of said plurality of devices, wherein said stage value can be one of: live and not live (col. 11, line 50 – col. 12, line 8).

As per claim 21, which is dependent on claim 16, Tonelli teaches said configuration screen provides location information for said one of said at least some of said plurality of devices, said location information including at least one of: a data center identifier, a building identifier, a floor identifier, a cage identifier, a row identifier, a rack identifier and a slot identifier (figs. 3a, 3c, and 3d).

As per claim 22, which is dependent on claim 16, Tonelli teaches said configuration screen includes a user interface element which is actuable to decommission said one of said at least some of said plurality of devices (col. 9, lines 43-47).

As per claims 27 and 28, which are dependent on claims 13 and 27 respectively, Tonelli teaches wherein said configuration user interface elements include an application interface element which is actuable to provide the user with a capability to select an application role for one of said at least some of said plurality of devices, wherein actuation of said application interface element results in display of an application role assignment screen, from which said user can select an application system for installation on said one of said at least some of said plurality of devices (col. 9, line 54 – col. 10, line 34).

As per claims 29 and 30, which are dependent on claims 28 and 29 respectively, Tonelli teaches said configuration user interface elements include a customer code interface element which is actuable to provide the user with a capability to select an customer role for one of said at least some of said plurality of devices, wherein actuation of said customer code interface element results in display of a customer role assignment screen, from which said user can select customer code for installation on said one of said at least some of said plurality of devices (fig. 3a and col. 8, lines 7-17).

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As per claim 31, which is dependent on claim 13, Tonelli teaches said configuration user interface elements include a name/value interface element which is actuable to permit a user of the graphical user interface to view and operate on name/value pairs associated with one of said at least some of said plurality of devices (200 and 196 of fig. 18).

As per claim 32, which is dependent on claim 13, Tonelli teaches said configuration user interface elements include a group interface element which is actuable to provide the user with a mechanism for assigning one of said at least some of said plurality of devices to a group (203 of fig. 17).

As per independent claim 33, Tonelli teaches a graphical user interface for searching for a device among a plurality of devices within one or more data centers comprising:

an input interface for entering one of a hostname of said device (*Name* of fig. 43) and an IP address of said device (fig. 44); and

a display screen which provides selected information associated with said device based upon whether the input interface received a hostname or an IP address (fig. 45).

As per claim 34, which is dependent on claim 33, Tonelli teaches said display screen provides an IP address state assignment interface element when said user enters an IP address into said input interface (col. 14, lines 16-28).

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3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6, 9, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tonelli.

As per claim 6, which is dependent on claim 1, Tonelli does not disclose said first portion includes, as said information associated with said plurality of devices that correspond to a customer, an operating system (OS) role associated with each of said plurality of devices. The Examiner takes Official Notice that it is well known in the computer art that every device needs run within a certain type of OS. It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to an operating system role associated with each of said plurality of devices in Tonelli's system since it would allows a user to know immediately the type of OS for a device.

As per claims 9 and 10, which are dependent on claims 1 and 9 respectively, Tonelli does disclose said first portion includes, as said information associated with said plurality of devices that correspond to a customer, a use field associated with each of said plurality of devices, wherein said use field has a value of one of: embryo, staging, production, internal and development. The Examiner takes Official Notice that production or development are well known in the computer networking art used to represent a value of the use field. It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include production or development as a

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value in the use field in Tonelli's system since it would a user to know the current status of the devices.

5. Claims 23-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tonelli in view of Kozaki et al. ("Kozaki", US 5,828,888).

As per claims 23-26, Tonelli does not disclose said configuration user interface elements include an operating system interface element which is actuable to provide the user with a capability to select an operating system role for one of said at least some of said plurality of devices, wherein actuation of said operating system interface element results in. display of an operating system role assignment screen, from which said user can select an operating system for installation on said one of said at least some of said plurality of devices, wherein said operating system role assignment screen lists a plurality of different operating systems, with one listing per version of each different operating system, and wherein said operating system role assignment screen includes a user interface element which, when actuated, adds deprecated operating system roles to said list of a plurality of different operating systems. Kozaki disclose a list of the operating system versions from the OS management table to allow a user at the source computer to select one of the versions from the list when functioning as the source computer and transmitting a request to the master computer indicating the selected version the master computer is responsive to the request from the source computer for transmitting the network boot command signal to a third computer in which the selected version of the operating system is installed so that the third computer performs a network boot process by transmitting a copy of the selected version of the operating system to said source computer (fig. 1 and col. 1, line 59 –

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col. 2, line 13). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to use the teaching from Kozaki of providing a user with a capability of selecting different operating system roles and versions in Tonelli's system since it would help to achieve efficient utilization of the resources of a computer network which uses different operating system roles and versions.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 6493749 B2 to Paxhia, Frank V. et al. discloses system and method for an administration server.

US 5933599 A to Nolan, Sean P. discloses apparatus for presenting the content of an interactive on-line network.

US 6202206 B1 to Dean, Jeffrey Randell et al. discloses simultaneous installation and configuration of programs and components into a network of server and client computers.

Inquiries

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nhon (Gary) D Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-8318. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8 AM to 5:30 PM with every other Monday off.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L Kincaid can be reached on 703-308-0640. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Nhon (Gary) Nguyen
June 25, 2004

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